by NRIs/PIOs having atleast 60% of beneficial interest in such bodies in the housing and real estate development sector. Liberalisation of the scheme and its extension to all potential investors, including multi-national companies, is under consideration.

Migration from Villages to Mega Cities

2147. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement of Mr. Klans Toepfer, Executive Director of UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UN Centre of Human Settlement (HABITAT) in the Hindustan Times, dated the 17th January, 1999 to the effect that about half of India's population would be urban at the dawn of millennium putting further pressure on cities already crumbling due to lack of planning;

(b) whether Government have taken/ propose to take measures to check migration of people to mega cities from villages and small towns; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) While the Government of India emphasises population control measures through family welfare schemes, as regards migration to mega cities from rural areas and small & medium towns, the approach of the Government is to address the problem through Rural Development Schemes and the Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT). The various rural development programme such as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Million Wells Scheme (MWS), Employment Assurances Scheme (EAS), Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), Rural Water Supply (RWS) etc., formulated by the Government of India emphasises the creation of job opportunities in villages through public works, employment and income generating programmes, etc. The IDSMT Scheme aims at the development of selected regional growth centres with key infrastructure so as to enable them to function as generators of economic growth and employment and to minimise the incentive of migrants belonging to villages and small & medium towns to move to large cities.

Further envisaging the urgent need to check migration to metropolitan areas, the Ministry proposed the New Township Development Scheme to the Planning Commission. The Scheme aims at development of Townships about 40-60 kms away from metropolitan areas linked through fast transport corridors. The scheme has not been approved by the Planning Commission due to paucity of funds.

Enforcement of Urban Land Ceiling (Repeal) Ordinance

2148. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: will the MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land released with abatement of litigation as a result of enforcement of the Urban Land Ceiling (Repeal) Ordinance in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai and in different State and Union Territories;

(b) how much of it is proposed to be utilised for alleviating under the new housing policy; and

(c) the details of the schemes, if any, drawn out for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976 was repealed through and Ordinance notified on 11.1.99. It applies in the first instance to the whole of the States of Haryaha, Punjab and all the Union Territories. The Repeal Ordinance will be applicable to other States in which the Act is in force only after it is adopted by the State Legislature concerned through a resolution. Since the Act has been repealed recently in only two States and union territories and it will stand repealed in other States only after adoption by the State Legislatures, it is not possible to asses the total area of land released with abatement of litigation or the total area to be utilised for alleviating under the New Housing Policy at this stage.

(c) Does not arise.

Provision of Electricity and Water in Rohini

2149. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether DDA had given possession of plots in Sector 24 in Rohini several years ago without making any provision of electricity and water and asked plot owners to build houses within two years;

(b) if so, the time by which electricity and water will be provided in this Sector;

(c) whether Government also propose to extend the time-limit to build houses on plots without any penalty and charge only nominal lease money of Re. 1/- per year for such plots for five years; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) DDA has reported that in the draw of lots held in March, 1991, some plots in Sector 24, Rohini were allotted. The concerned allotttess were handed over possession of their allotted plots on furnishing undertaking since the essential services were not available at the time of allotment. As per the terms and conditions of allotment/lease, the allottee/lesseee of the plot is required to construct the building on the allottted plot within a period of two years from the date of taking over possession. A further period of one year is allowed as grace period. But in the cases where services are not available, the period of two years allowed for construction is reckoned from the date of release of the building activities.

(b) DDA was reported that water is available in Sector 24, Rohini. So far as electrification is concerned, the Delhi Vidyut Board has reported that on the request of DDA, the Delhi Vidyut Board has formulated 21 schemes for electrification of different pockets in Sector 24, Rohini.

(c) and (d) Ground rent is recovered from the date of allotment at the rate of Re. 1/- per annum for the first 5 years and thereafter at the rate of 2.5% of the premium.

Changes in Building By-Laws

2150. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Development Authority has adopted the amended by-laws so that DDA plot holders can also build basement, besides three storeys on plots measuring 32 sq. Mtr. and above in view of recent changes in building by-laws by MCD in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not whether DDA also proposes to make necessary amendment so that